

Guidance for Common Waterless Toilets

Outhouse



A seat above hole in the ground. Outhouses leach untreated waste and liquids into the environment. Nutrients and dangerous pathogens can enter groundwater.

Incineration Toilet



Toilet that burns solid waste and liquids. Allowed with a permit. Can reduce leachfield size by 25%. Ash residue must be disposed at a landfill or permitted location on the property that meets leachfield requirements.

Not Allowed for New Use in Vermont

Vault Privy

A seat above an underground tank that can be regularly pumped. Leaches no liquids to surrounding soil. Allowed at campsites/campgrounds or remote huts with a permit.

Portable Toilet



Temporary structure delivered to a site containing a toilet and tank with no discharge. Allowed on construction sites and events lasting less than 28 days without a permit. A permit is required for campsite being used more than 12 nights/year.



Moldering Privy

A raised toilet that uses slow decomposition. Allowed at State or Federally owned remote campsites.



Composting Toilet



Allowed with a valid permit. Composting toilets can also reduce the leachfield size by 25%. Toilet should be NSF-41 certified or equivalent. Compost must be disposed of at landfill or permitted site on property. At a primitive campsite, it can be used without a permit as long as waste is disposed of at a landfill.